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JUNGLE JIM

the BENGAL TIGER

"Tiger, tiger, burning bright
In the forests of the night,"

are the opening lines of a famous poem written by William Blake. His poem tells of the terrible beauty of this wild animal which, even today, stalks the jungles of India. At times as powerful as the lion, the tiger's lithe figure stalking cattle, deer and wild hogs, strikes terror to the hearts of the people who live in the villages.

Black stripes, long and narrow, mark the tawny yellow coat of the Bengal tiger. Ten feet from tip of nose to end of tail, it resembles the lion in size and structure. But, unlike the lion, it has no mane and it does not roar. The average length of life is 25 years.

Though the Bengal tiger has been called a man-eater, it is generally the old, toothless ones that constitute a menace to man. They lurk on the outskirts of villages, finding man an easier prey than animals.

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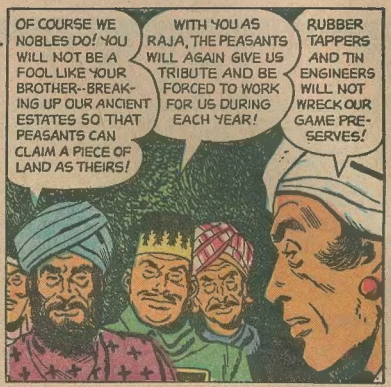
JUNGLE JIM

THE TIGER HUNT

IDRIS, YOU HAVE PLOTTED TO TAKE HIS THRONE BEFORE--
SILENCE! DO NOT TELL ME OF PAST FAILURES. THIS TIME MY PLAN IS PERFECT! THE WAY YOU SPEAK ONE WOULD THINK YOU DID NOT WISH ME TO SUCCEED!


OF COURSE WE NOBLES DO! YOU WILL NOT BE A FOOL LIKE YOUR BROTHER--BREAKING UP OUR ANCIENT ESTATES SO THAT PEASANTS CAN CLAIM A PIECE OF LAND AS THEIRS!
WITH YOU AS RAJA, THE PEASANTS WILL AGAIN GIVE US TRIBUTE AND BE FORCED TO WORK FOR US DURING EACH YEAR!
RUBBER TAPPERS AND TIN ENGINEERS WILL NOT WRECK OUR GAME PRESERVES!

YES, MY NOBLE FRIENDS, I WILL REFORM MY BROTHER'S "REFORMS"! BUT NOW I MUST MAKE READY TO GREET THE HUNTER! ONE SHOULD ALWAYS WELCOME HIS ALLY-- EVEN IF HE DOESN'T KNOW HE IS ONE'S ACCOMPLICE IN ASSASSINATION!

LATER...
HIS HIGHNESS, RAJA TUNGKU, HOLDER OF THE TALISMAN OF THE PETRIFIED DOW, WILL RECEIVE YOU! ENTER!

WELCOME, MR. BRADLEY! WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE FOR YOUR COMING!
WHEN HIS BAGGAGE IS TAKEN TO HIS ROOM, BRING ME ONE OF THE CARTRIDGES FOR HIS RIFLE!
IT SHALL BE DONE, PRINCE!

KOLU AND I HAVE HEARD OF YOUR REFORMS AND CONCERN FOR YOUR PEOPLE...
...BECAUSE THE PALACE IS OLD DOES NOT MEAN THE RULER CANNOT BE MODERN! MY REFORMS ARE MADE SO MY PEOPLE CAN EVENTUALLY ENJOY A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT!

AND THIS IS MY BROTHER, PRINCE IDRIS!
YOUR SERVANT, MR. BRADLEY! WHILE MY BROTHER HAS BEEN BUSY ADMINISTERING HIS STATE FROM THE PALACE, I HAVE FOUND TIME TO SHOOT IN THE JUNGLE! IF I CAN HELP YOU--

THANK YOU, PRINCE IDRIS! PERHAPS YOU CAN!
THEN ALLOW ME TO TAKE YOU TO THE PLACE OF THE TIGER'S LAST KILL!

SOON...
HERE IS THE SPOT, MR. BRADLEY! THE PUG MARK IS STILL CLEAR!

THE CLAW MARK IS NOT SHARP--A WORN CLAW MEANS AN OLD TIGER! PROBABLY AT ONE TIME IT WAS WOUNDED OR HURT, SO GETTING FOOD IN ITS USUAL WAY HAS FINALLY BECOME TOO DIFFICULT! NOW THE TIGER HAS TURNED TO AN EASIER PREY--MAN!

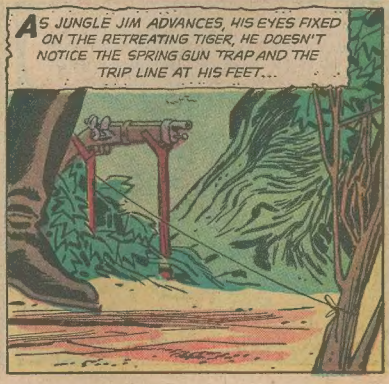
THE TRAIL'S STILL FRESH! WE CAN FOLLOW--
I-I THOUGHT YOU WOULD WANT TO ORGANIZE A "BEAT", MR. BRADLEY! THE TIGER HAS CARRIED OFF ITS KILL. TO INTERRUPT A FEASTING TIGER IS TO CAUSE HIM TO CHANGE HIS MENU, MAKING YOU HIS MAIN COURSE!

HE WON'T BE EATING YET, PRINCE IDRIS! HE'LL HIDE HIS KILL AND RETURN TO IT TONIGHT! IF WE CAN LOCATE HIS KILL NOW, WE MAY BE ABLE TO AMBUSH HIM WHEN HE RETURNS TONIGHT!

SILENTLY, THEY FOLLOW THE TIGER'S WELL-MARKED DRAG...

SOON...
TUAN!
HE'S LEFT HIS KILL! HE'S HEADING FOR THE JUNGLE! IF I CAN GET OUT IN THE CLEAR A BIT FURTHER, I'LL TRY A SNAP SHOT!

IF BRADLEY KILLS THE TIGER NOW, ALL MY PLANS ARE RUINED! AH! SOME FOOL PEASANT HAS GIVEN ME A WAY TO SAVE THE TIGER!

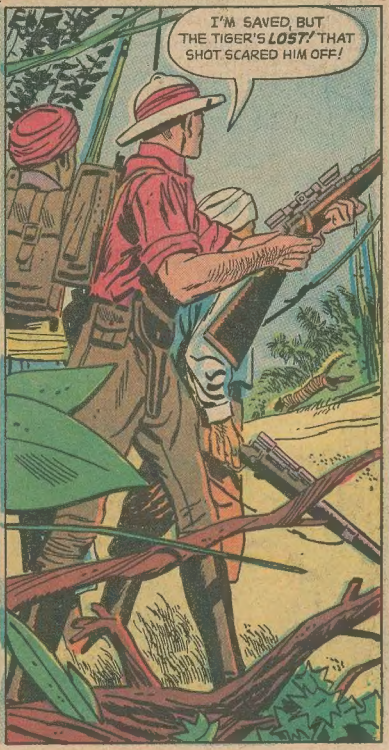

AS JUNGLE JIM ADVANCES, HIS EYES FIXED ON THE RETREATING TIGER, HE DOESN'T NOTICE THE SPRING GUN TRAP AND THE TRIP LINE AT HIS FEET...

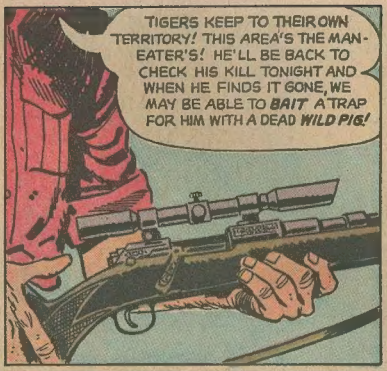
DOWN!

BANG!

A SPRING GUN! THIS TYPE OF TRAP IS CONSIDERED TOO DANGEROUS AND IS ILLEGAL— BUT SOME FRIGHTENED PEASANT SET IT UP, HOPING THE MAN-EATER WOULD PASS AND SLAY HIMSELF!
IF YOU HADN'T PUSHED ME DOWN, PRINCE IDRIS, THAT MALAYAN WOULD HAVE HAD ME FOR A HUNTING TROPHY!

AAOUGHH!


I'M SAVED, BUT THE TIGER'S LOST! THAT SHOT SCARED HIM OFF!

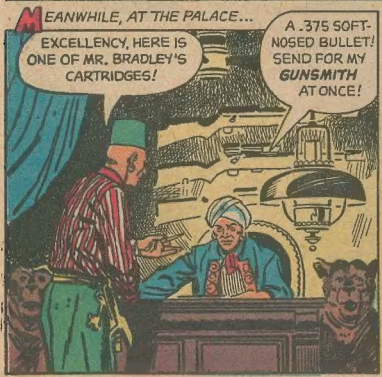


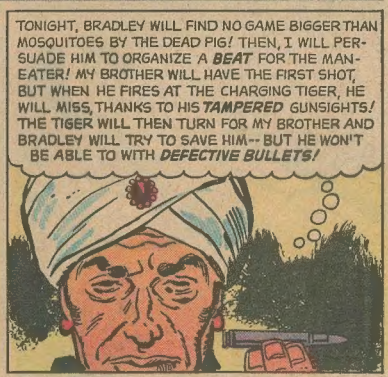
CUTTING A WILD PIG'S TRACK CLOSE BY, THEY SOON FIND THE TIGER'S FAVORITE PREY ROOTING FOR FOOD. JIM'S MANNLICHER FIRES...

I SEE YOU INTEND TO SWITCH ON A TORCH BEFORE YOU FIRE! BETTER CHECK YOUR BATTERIES!
SOON AS I FINISH TAPING THE FLASHLIGHT ONTO THE RIFLE, I'LL TEST THEM!

AND AS JUNGLE JIM FLICKS HIS FLASHLIGHT ON AND OFF, PRINCE IDRIS TOSSES A HANDERCHIEF BY THE PIG'S CARCASS, UNSEEN...
WHEN THE TIGER GETS WIND OF A HUMAN SCENT BY THE DEAD WILD PIG, HE'LL KNOW SOMETHING IS WRONG AND KEEP CLEAR!

THAT NIGHT...
THE MOONLIGHT SHOULD HELP-- BUT SINCE THE TETABU GAVE HIS DUSK CALL WHEN HE FLEW BY, THERE HASN'T BEEN A SOUND!


MEANWHILE, AT THE PALACE...
EXCELLENCY, HERE IS ONE OF MR. BRADLEY'S CARTRIDGES!
A .375 SOFT-NOSED BULLET! SEND FOR MY GUNSMITH AT ONCE!


TONIGHT, BRADLEY WILL FIND NO GAME BIGGER THAN MOSQUITOES BY THE DEAD PIG! THEN, I WILL PERSUADE HIM TO ORGANIZE A BEAT FOR THE MAN-EATER! MY BROTHER WILL HAVE THE FIRST SHOT, BUT WHEN HE FIRES AT THE CHARGING TIGER, HE WILL MISS, THANKS TO HIS TAMPERED GUNSIGHTS! THE TIGER WILL THEN TURN FOR MY BROTHER AND BRADLEY WILL TRY TO SAVE HIM-- BUT HE WON'T BE ABLE TO WITH DEFECTIVE BULLETS!

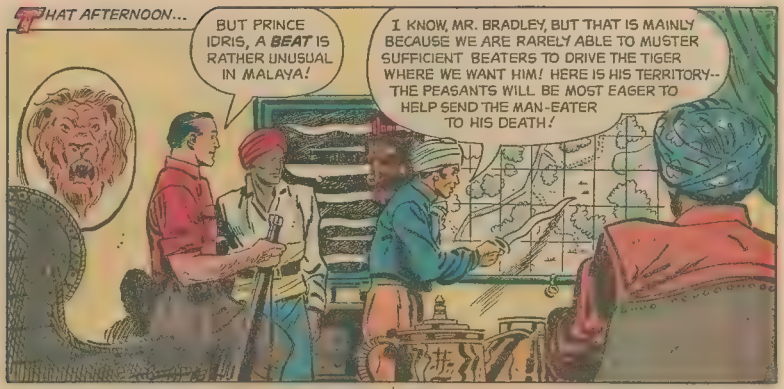
LATER...
SOMETHING IS MOVING BY THE DEAD PIG! LET'S SEE WHAT MY FLASHLIGHT PICKS UP!

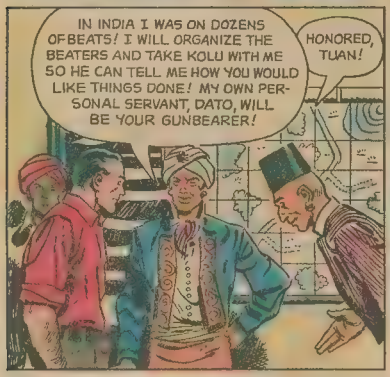
OF ALL THE ROTTEN LUCK--A MONITOR LIZARD!

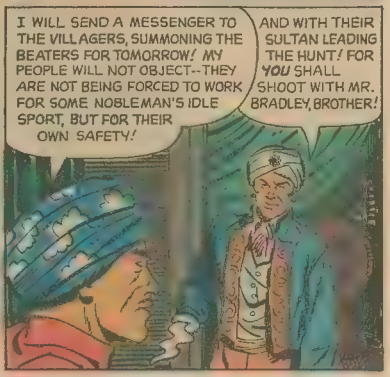
THAT JUNGLE SCAVENGER WILL MAKE ENOUGH NOISE SCURRYING OFF TO MAKE CERTAIN THE TIGER KEEPS CLEAR OF THE BAIT!
THUMP!
SNAP!

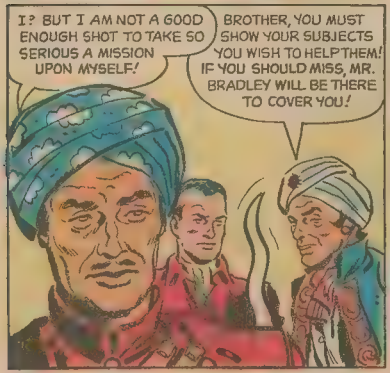
AT DAWN, AS JUNGLE JIM CLIMBS DOWN...
FUNNY, THE MAN-EATER WAS NEAR LAST NIGHT--BUT WHY'D HE SHY AWAY FROM HIS FAVORITE DISH?

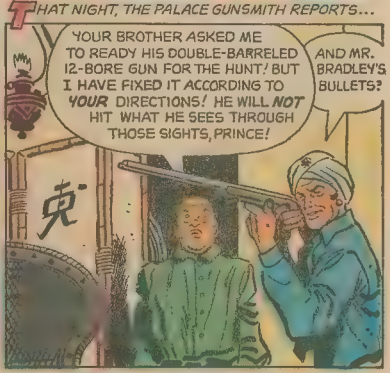
HELLO--PRINCE IDRIS' HANDKERCHIEF! BUT HE'S TOO EXPERIENCED A HUNTER TO HAVE "ACCIDENTALLY" DROPPED IT THERE! STILL--IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! HE SAVED MY LIFE, BUT WHY WAS HE OUT TO SAVE THE TIGER'S?

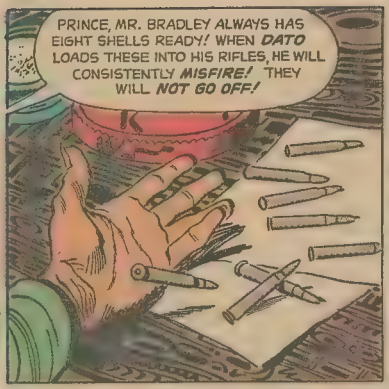

THAT AFTERNOON...
BUT PRINCE IDRIS, A BEAT IS RATHER UNUSUAL IN MALAYA!
I KNOW, MR. BRADLEY, BUT THAT IS MAINLY BECAUSE WE ARE RARELY ABLE TO MUSTER SUFFICIENT BEATERS TO DRIVE THE TIGER WHERE WE WANT HIM! HERE IS HIS TERRITORY--THE PEASANTS WILL BE MOST EAGER TO HELP SEND THE MAN-EATER TO HIS DEATH!

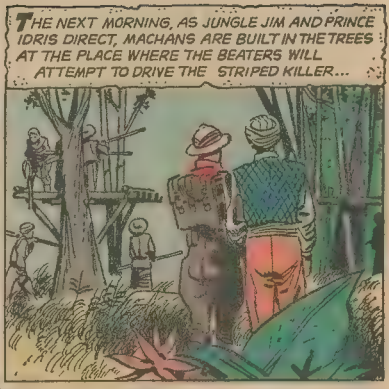

IN INDIA I WAS ON DOZENS OF BEATS! I WILL ORGANIZE THE BEATERS AND TAKE KOLU WITH ME SO HE CAN TELL ME HOW YOU WOULD LIKE THINGS DONE! MY OWN PERSONAL SERVANT, DATO, WILL BE YOUR GUNBEARER!
HONORED, TUAN!


I WILL SEND A MESSENGER TO THE VILLAGERS, SUMMONING THE BEATERS FOR TOMORROW! MY PEOPLE WILL NOT OBJECT--THEY ARE NOT BEING FORCED TO WORK FOR SOME NOBLEMAN'S IDLE SPORT, BUT FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY!
AND WITH THEIR SULTAN LEADING THE HUNT! FOR YOU SHALL SHOOT WITH MR. BRADLEY, BROTHER!


I? BUT I AM NOT A GOOD ENOUGH SHOT TO TAKE SO SERIOUS A MISSION UPON MYSELF!
BROTHER, YOU MUST SHOW YOUR SUBJECTS YOU WISH TO HELP THEM! IF YOU SHOULD MISS, MR. BRADLEY WILL BE THERE TO COVER YOU!

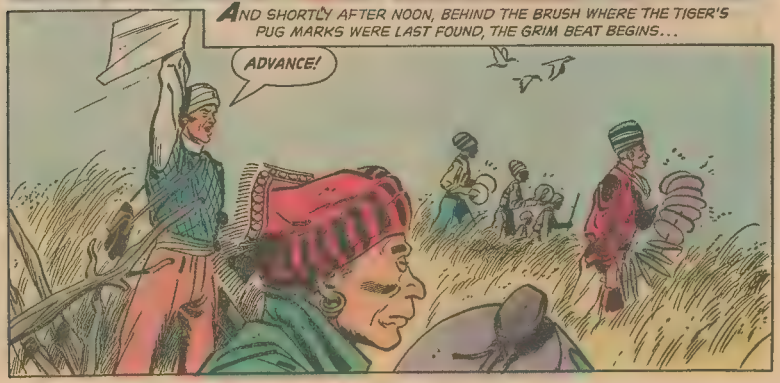

THAT NIGHT, THE PALACE GUNSMITH REPORTS...
YOUR BROTHER ASKED ME TO READY HIS DOUBLE-BARRELED 12-BORE GUN FOR THE HUNT! BUT I HAVE FIXED IT ACCORDING TO YOUR DIRECTIONS! HE WILL NOT HIT WHAT HE SEES THROUGH THOSE SIGHTS, PRINCE!
AND MR. BRADLEY'S BULLETS?

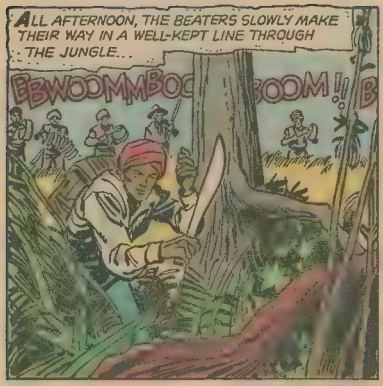

PRINCE, MR. BRADLEY ALWAYS HAS EIGHT SHELLS READY! WHEN DATO LOADS THESE INTO HIS RIFLES, HE WILL CONSISTENTLY MISFIRE! THEY WILL NOT GO OFF!


THE NEXT MORNING, AS JUNGLE JIM AND PRINCE IDRIS DIRECT, MACHANS ARE BUILT IN THE TREES AT THE PLACE WHERE THE BEATERS WILL ATTEMPT TO DRIVE THE STRIPED KILLER...

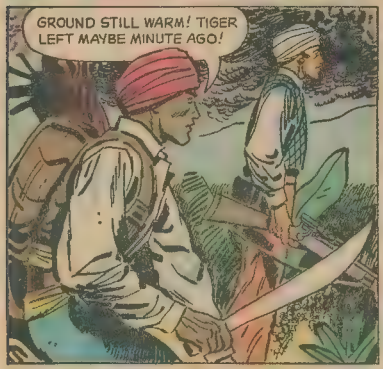
I WILL NOT NEED A GUNBEARER, MR. BRADLEY! IF BOTH MY SHOTS FAIL TO STOP HIM, IT WILL BE UP TO YOU!

THANKS FOR THE HAND, DATO!
BOTH YOUR RIFLES ARE LOADED, MR. BRADLEY! ALL IS READY!

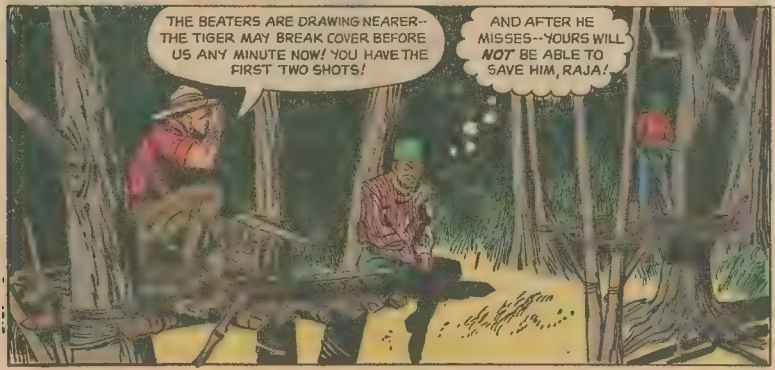

AND SHORTLY AFTER NOON, BEHIND THE BRUSH WHERE THE TIGER'S PUG MARKS WERE LAST FOUND, THE GRIM BEAT BEGINS...
ADVANCE!

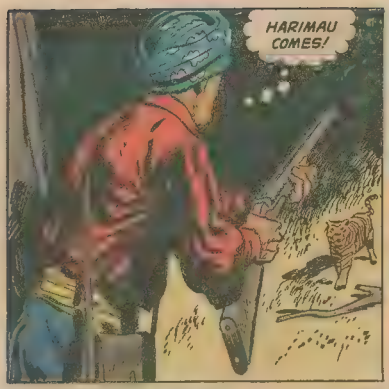

ALL AFTERNOON, THE BEATERS SLOWLY MAKE THEIR WAY IN A WELL-KEPT LINE THROUGH THE JUNGLE...
EBWOOMMBOO
BOOM!!

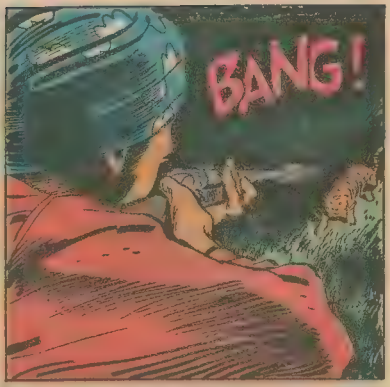
AND AS THE NOISE INCREASES, THE MAN-EATER STIRS IN HIS LAYING-UP PLACE...


GROUND STILL WARM! TIGER LEFT MAYBE MINUTE AGO!

BEFORE THE STEADY, NOISY ADVANCE OF THE BEATERS, THE TIGER LOPES TOWARD THE WAITING HUNTERS, AS DUSK FALLS...


THE BEATERS ARE DRAWING NEARER--THE TIGER MAY BREAK COVER BEFORE US ANY MINUTE NOW! YOU HAVE THE FIRST TWO SHOTS!
AND AFTER HE MISSES--YOURS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SAVE HIM, RAJA!


HARIMAU COMES!


BANG!

YOU'RE AIMING TOO HIGH TO THE LEFT!

S-SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG WITH MY RIFLE--MY SHOT WAS TOO WIDE TO HAVE BEEN WHOLLY MY FAULT! I WILL AIM TO THE RIGHT THIS TIME!
BANG!

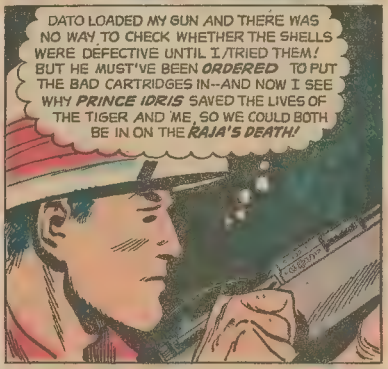
THE SECOND SHOT GRAZES THE TIGER'S RIGHT SHOULDER, AS HE ROARS IN FURY.
AROOOOOGHH!

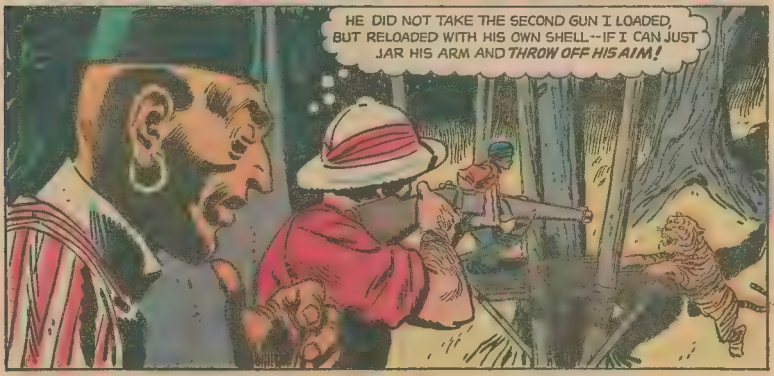
HE IS COMING FOR ME! NOW IT'S UP TO MR. BRADLEY!

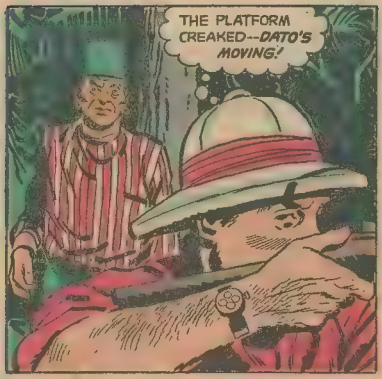
A WOUNDED TIGER IS BAD ENOUGH -- BUT A MAN-EATER ISN'T AFRAID TO TACKLE A HUMAN TARGET!

TWO MISFIRES -- SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH MY SHELLS!
CLICK CLICK!

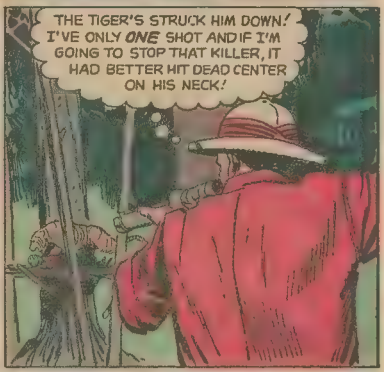
ALWAYS CARRY A LUCKY SHELL IN MY POCKET, AND I'LL NEED LUCK IF I'M GOING TO SAVE THE RAJA'S SKIN AND MOUNT THE TIGER'S!


DATO LOADED MY GUN AND THERE WAS NO WAY TO CHECK WHETHER THE SHELLS WERE DEFECTIVE UNTIL I TRIED THEM! BUT HE MUST'VE BEEN ORDERED TO PUT THE BAD CARTRIDGES IN--AND NOW I SEE WHY PRINCE IDRIS SAVED THE LIVES OF THE TIGER AND ME, SO WE COULD BOTH BE IN ON THE RAJA'S DEATH!


HE DID NOT TAKE THE SECOND GUN I LOADED, BUT RELOADED WITH HIS OWN SHELL--IF I CAN JUST JAR HIS ARM AND THROW OFF HIS AIM!

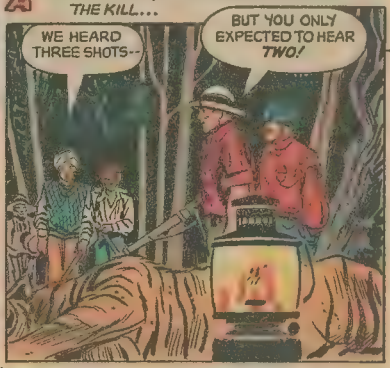

THE PLATFORM CREAKED--DATO'S MOVING!

OW!!!
NOW TO DO AS WELL WITH THE TIGER!

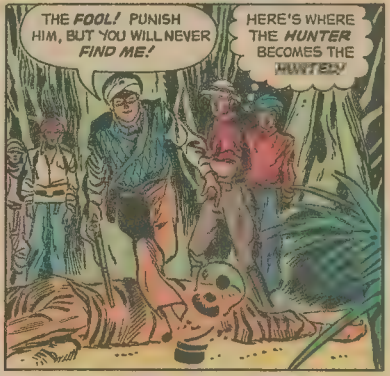

THE TIGER'S STRUCK HIM DOWN! I'VE ONLY ONE SHOT AND IF I'M GOING TO STOP THAT KILLER, IT HAD BETTER HIT DEAD CENTER ON HIS NECK!

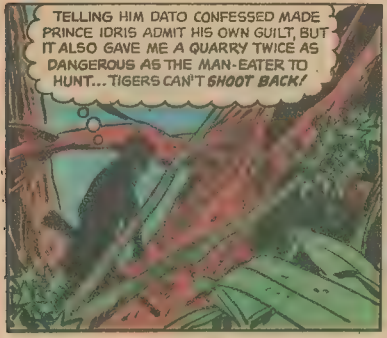
DROPPED HIM!

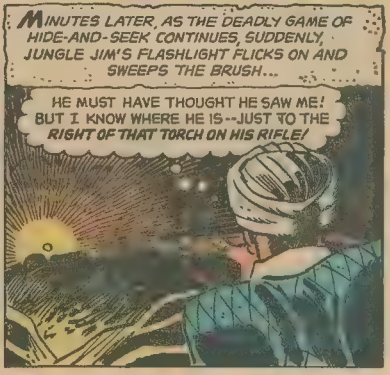
TH-THANK YOU, MR. BRADLEY!

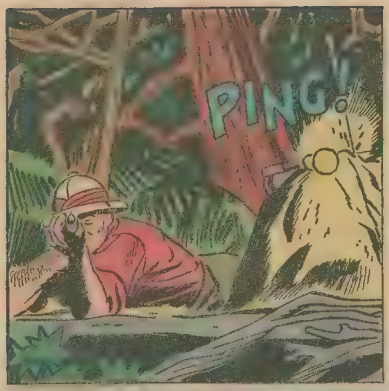

A MINUTE LATER, THE BEATERS' LINE REACHES THE KILL...
WE HEARD THREE SHOTS--
BUT YOU ONLY EXPECTED TO HEAR TWO!

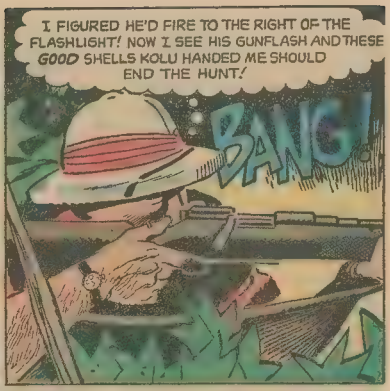
I-I DO NOT UNDERSTAND!
NO NEED FOR DRAMATICS ANY MORE--DATO CONFESSED!


THE FOOL! PUNISH HIM, BUT YOU WILL NEVER FIND ME!
HERE'S WHERE THE HUNTER BECOMES THE HUNTED!


AS PRINCE IDRIS PLUNGES INTO THE DARK BRUSH, JUNGLE JIM FOLLOWS...
TELLING HIM DATO CONFESSED MADE PRINCE IDRIS ADMIT HIS OWN GUILT, BUT IT ALSO GAVE ME A QUARRY TWICE AS DANGEROUS AS THE MAN-EATER TO HUNT...TIGERS CAN'T SHOOT BACK!

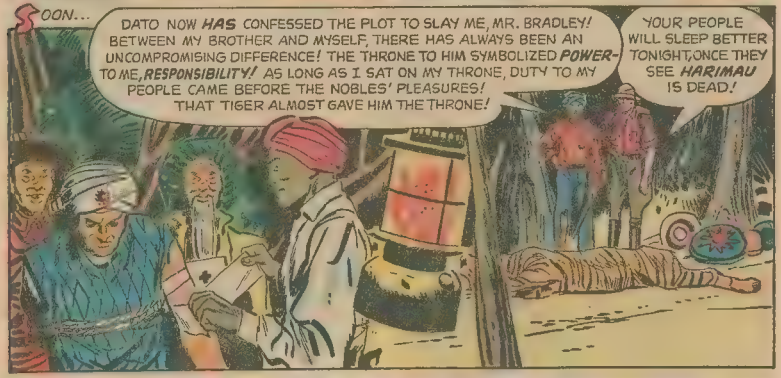

MINUTES LATER, AS THE DEADLY GAME OF HIDE-AND-SEEK CONTINUES, SUDDENLY, JUNGLE JIM'S FLASHLIGHT FLICKS ON AND SWEEPS THE BRUSH...
HE MUST HAVE THOUGHT HE SAW ME! BUT I KNOW WHERE HE IS--JUST TO THE RIGHT OF THAT TORCH ON HIS RIFLE!


PING!

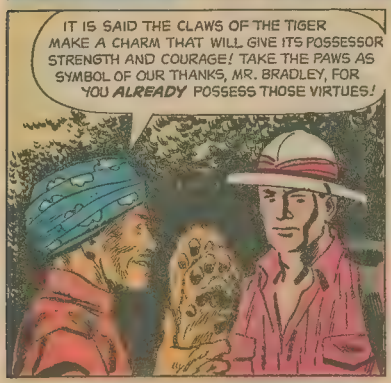

I FIGURED HE'D FIRE TO THE RIGHT OF THE FLASHLIGHT! NOW I SEE HIS GUNFLASH AND THESE GOOD SHELLS KOLU HANDED ME SHOULD END THE HUNT!
BANG!

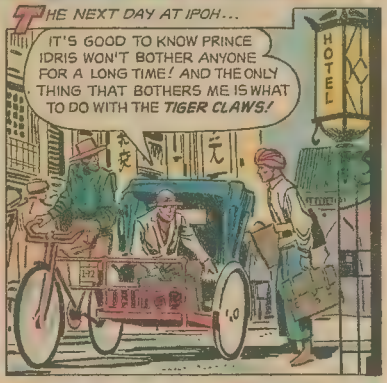
OWW!

COME ALONG! YOU'LL MAKE A PRETTY TROPHY FOR YOUR BROTHER'S GAME ROOM!

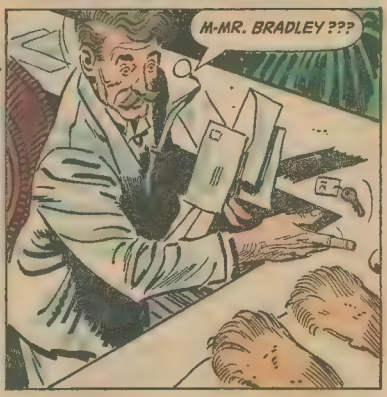

SOON...
DATO NOW HAS CONFESSED THE PLOT TO SLAY ME, MR. BRADLEY! BETWEEN MY BROTHER AND MYSELF, THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN UNCOMPROMISING DIFFERENCE! THE THRONE TO HIM SYMBOLIZED POWER-TO ME, RESPONSIBILITY! AS LONG AS I SAT ON MY THRONE, DUTY TO MY PEOPLE CAME BEFORE THE NOBLES' PLEASURES! THAT TIGER ALMOST GAVE HIM THE THRONE!
YOUR PEOPLE WILL SLEEP BETTER TONIGHT, ONCE THEY SEE HARIMAU IS DEAD!

LATER...
THE MAN-EATER IS DEAD, EXCELLENCY! YOU HAVE SAVED US!
YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE FOR US, EXCELLENCY! TO THE END OF TIME, OUR CHILDREN'S CHILDREN SHALL NOT FORGET!
YOU HAVE MR. BRADLEY'S GOOD SHOT TO THANK-- NOT ME!


IT IS SAID THE CLAWS OF THE TIGER MAKE A CHARM THAT WILL GIVE ITS POSSESSOR STRENGTH AND COURAGE! TAKE THE PAWS AS SYMBOL OF OUR THANKS, MR. BRADLEY, FOR YOU ALREADY POSSESS THOSE VIRTUES!

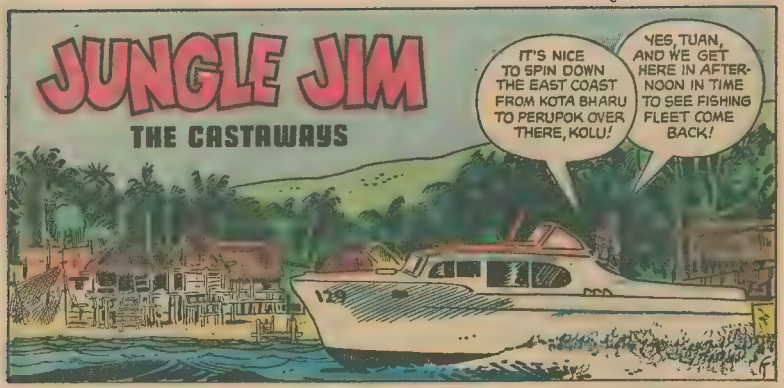

THE NEXT DAY AT IPOH...
IT'S GOOD TO KNOW PRINCE IDRIS WON'T BOTHER ANYONE FOR A LONG TIME! AND THE ONLY THING THAT BOTHERS ME IS WHAT TO DO WITH THE TIGER CLAWS!
HOTEL

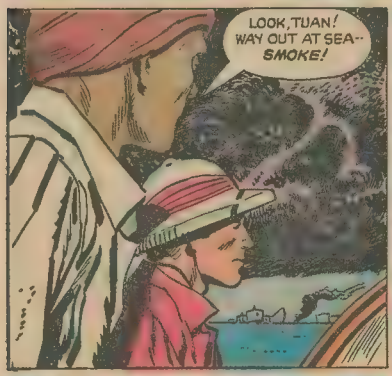
I'LL GET YOUR ROOM KEY, MR. BRADLEY! I SAY-- I HOPE YOU HAD A GOOD HUNT! WHEN YOU CHAPS GO OFF ON A SHOOT, I'M ALWAYS AFRAID THE TIGER WILL COME BACK INSTEAD OF YOU! JOLLY JOKE, WHAT?

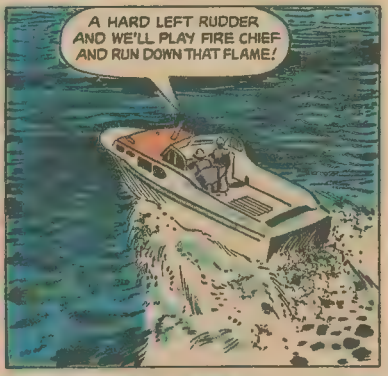

M-MR. BRADLEY ???

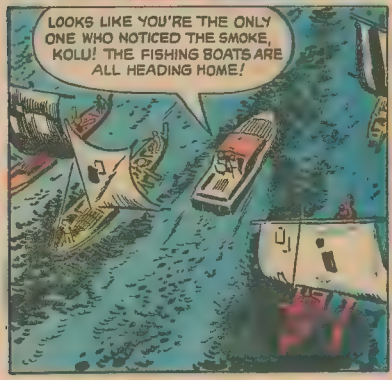
JUNGLE JIM

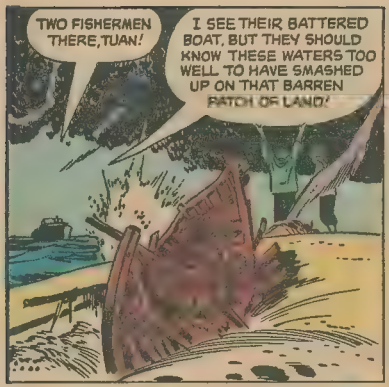
THE CASTAWAYS

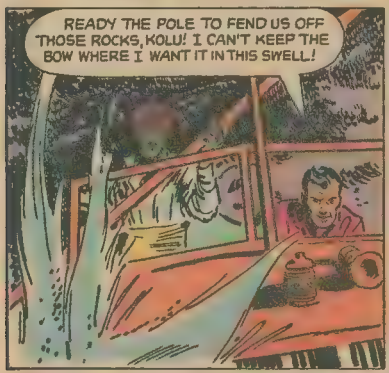


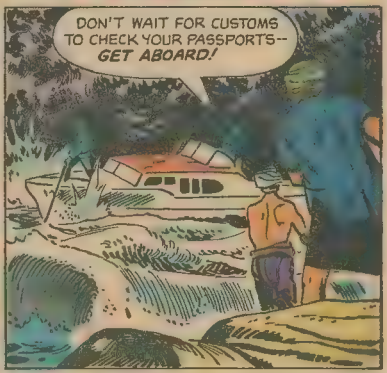




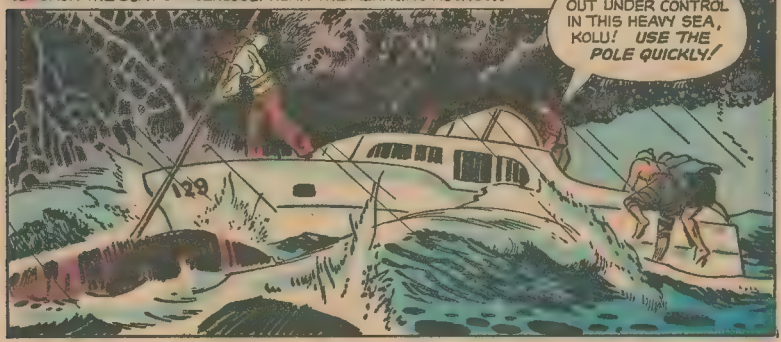


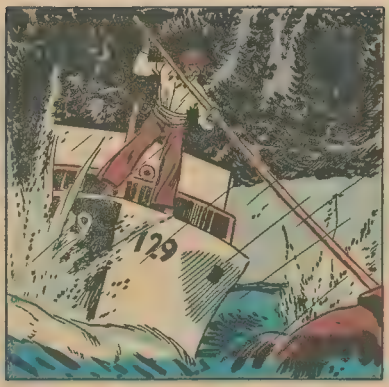






BUT AS THE TWO MALAYANS SWARM ABOARD, THE CHURNING WAVES DASH THE BOAT DANGEROUSLY NEAR THE MENACING ROCKS...

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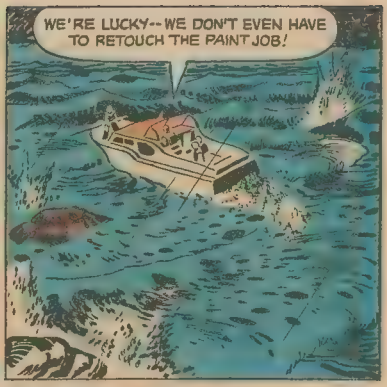
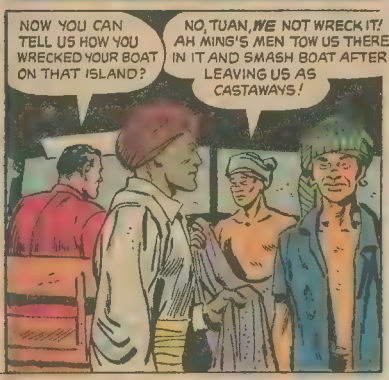
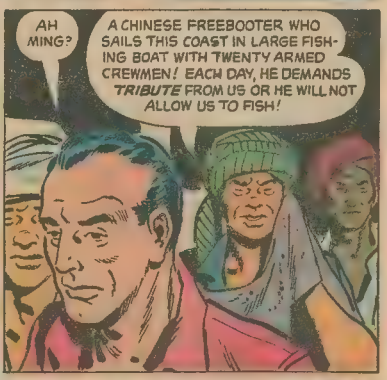
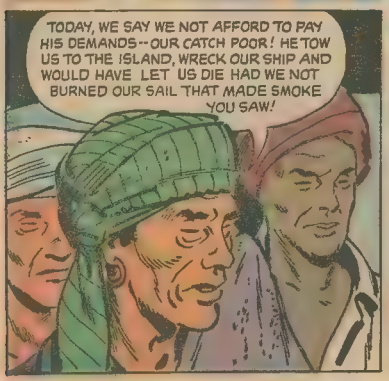

WE'RE LUCKY--WE DON'T EVEN HAVE TO RETOUCH THE PAINT JOB!


NOW YOU CAN TELL US HOW YOU WRECKED YOUR BOAT ON THAT ISLAND?
NO, TUAN, *WE* NOT WRECK IT! AH MING'S MEN TOW US THERE IN IT AND SMASH BOAT AFTER LEAVING US AS CASTAWAYS!

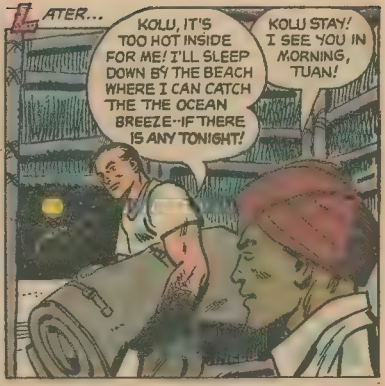

AH MING?
A CHINESE FREEBOOTER WHO SAILS THIS COAST IN LARGE FISHING BOAT WITH TWENTY ARMED CREWMEN! EACH DAY, HE DEMANDS *TRIBUTE* FROM US OR HE WILL NOT ALLOW US TO FISH!

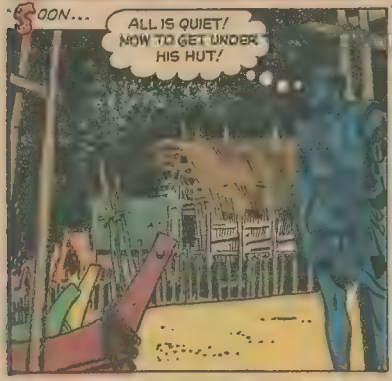

TODAY, WE SAY WE NOT AFFORD TO PAY HIS DEMANDS--OUR CATCH POOR! HE TOW US TO THE ISLAND, WRECK OUR SHIP AND WOULD HAVE LET US DIE HAD WE NOT BURNED OUR SAIL THAT MADE SMOKE YOU SAW!

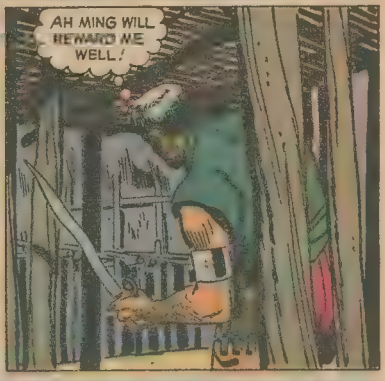
YOU CAN TELL THE OTHERS, KOLU AND I ARE *STAYING!* THERE'S A BREN GUN ON BOARD! IF AH MING WANTS TRIBUTE, INSTEAD OF DOLLARS, HE'LL COLLECT IT IN *LEAD!*

LATER, BY A SECRET WATERWAY DOWN THE COAST...
AH MING, THE WHITE TUAN STAYS IN PERUPOK!
STOP, FOOL!
TOO LATE! YOU HAVE STEPPED OVER THE OAR! IT IS WELL KNOWN TO THE WISE THAT THAT MEANS ILL FORTUNE WILL BEFALL OUR UNDERTAKINGS THIS DAY!
A THOUSAND PARDONS! BUT THE NEWS I BRING IS MOST URGENT! THIS TUAN TELLS THE PEOPLE TO CEASE PAYING TRIBUTE FOR THE RIGHT TO FISH!
TRUE, THE NEWS IS STIMULATING, BUT HARDLY MERITS BRINGING BAD LUCK UPON US!
SMAIL, YOUR WELL-SHARPENED KRIS SHOULD RELIEVE US OF THIS FOREIGN MEDDLER!
IT WILL BE DONE THIS NIGHT!
I'LL PUT MY BEDDING DOWN ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THIS HUT, KOLU!
GOOD! AND STANDING UNDERNEATH THE RAISED FLOOR, IT WILL BE MOST EASY TO SHOVE MY KRIS UP THROUGH THE FLOORBOARD CRACKS INTO THE TUAN'S RIBS!

THEY'VE CLEANED THIS HUT WELL FOR US, KOLU! THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS CLEAN UP THE SEA BY GETTING RID OF THAT SEA-FARING EXTORTIONER!

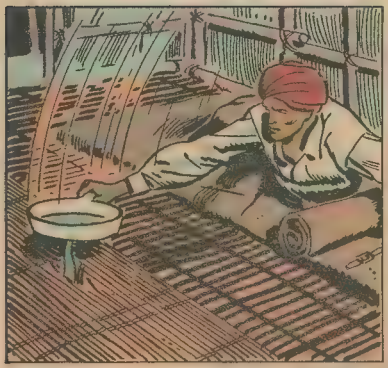

LATER...
KOLU, IT'S TOO HOT INSIDE FOR ME! I'LL SLEEP DOWN BY THE BEACH WHERE I CAN CATCH THE THE OCEAN BREEZE--IF THERE IS ANY TONIGHT!
KOLU STAY! I SEE YOU IN MORNING, TUAN!

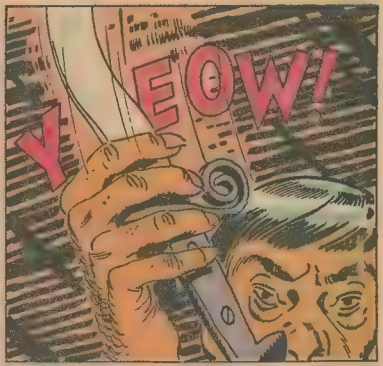

SOON...
ALL IS QUIET! NOW TO GET UNDER HIS HUT!

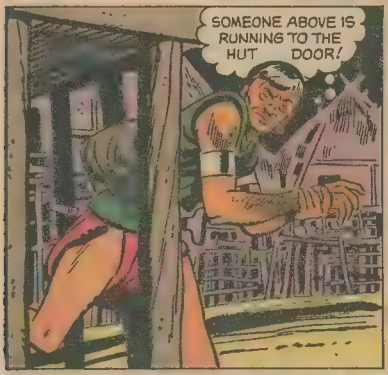

AH MING WILL REWARD ME WELL!

HIS MAT IS ABOVE ME -- NOW HE SHALL TRULY SLEEP!

RIIIP!




YEOW!


SOMEONE ABOVE IS RUNNING TO THE HUT DOOR!

THERE HE GOES!

HE MADE FOR THE JUNGLE!..

...I HAVE NO CHANCE OF FINDING HIM IN THERE ALONE! AT LEAST TUAN IS SAFE--FOR THE MOMENT!

QUICKLY, KOLU TELLS JUNGLE JIM BRADLEY OF THE ATTACK...

I WAS RIGHT EARLIER, KOLU, WHEN I SAID THE HUT WAS "REAL HOT" FOR ME!

IT SHAME KOLU NOT CATCH KRIS MAN!

YOU MAY HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE, KOLU! I'M CERTAIN TONIGHT'S ATTEMPTED STAB IN THE BACK MEANS AH MING KNOWS I'M OUT TO STOP HIM!

ELSEWHERE...

THE TUAN WAS *NOT* IN HIS BED, AH MING! I HAVE FAILED!

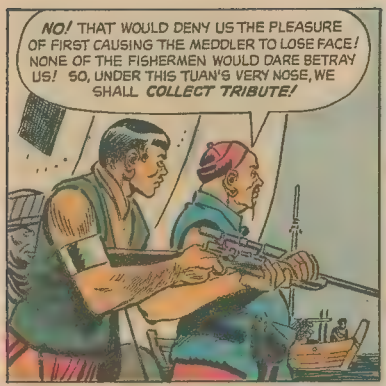
IT WAS NOT YOUR FAULT, SMAIL! WHEN THAT FOOL STEPPED OVER THE *OAR* AT DUSK, I KNEW *BAD LUCK* WOULD BEFALL OUR UNDERTAKINGS TODAY!

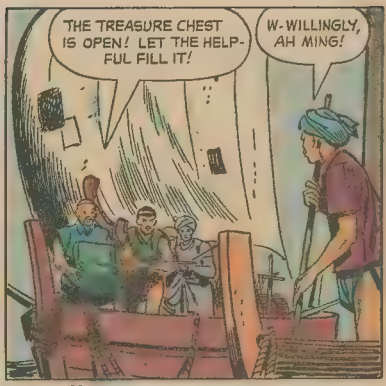
AND TOMORROW-- DO WE COLLECT OUR TRIBUTE?

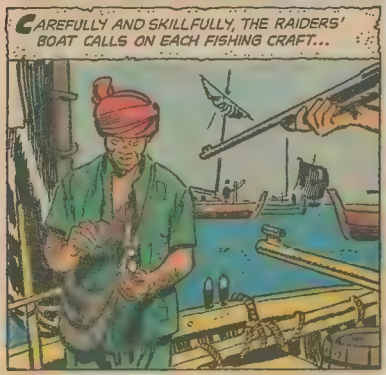
NATURALLY! ONE HAS BUT TO NOTICE THESE TEA LEAVES AND HE COULD DISCERN THAT TOMORROW FORTUNE WILL SMILE UPON US!

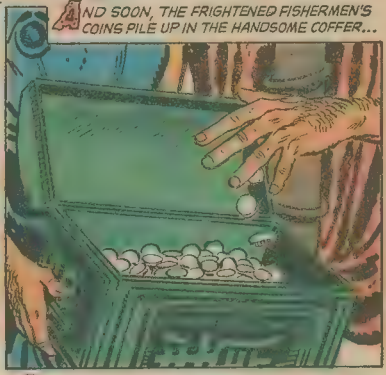
THE NEXT DAY...

AH MING, WHAT MY KRIS FAILED TO ACCOMPLISH LAST NIGHT--MY RIFLE CAN EASILY PERFORM *NOW!*


NO! THAT WOULD DENY US THE PLEASURE OF FIRST CAUSING THE MEDDLER TO LOSE FACE! NONE OF THE FISHERMEN WOULD DARE BETRAY US! SO, UNDER THIS TUAN'S VERY NOSE, WE SHALL COLLECT TRIBUTE!


THE TREASURE CHEST IS OPEN! LET THE HELPFUL FILL IT!
W-WILLINGLY, AH MING!


CAREFULLY AND SKILLFULLY, THE RAIDERS' BOAT CALLS ON EACH FISHING CRAFT...


AND SOON, THE FRIGHTENED FISHERMEN'S COINS PILE UP IN THE HANDSOME COFFER...

SO FAR EVERYTHING LOOKS NORMAL, KOLU!
YES, TUAN! ONLY SEE FISHERMEN FISH!
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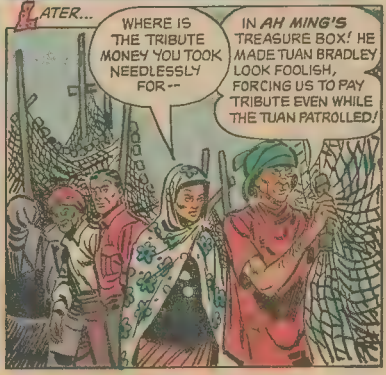
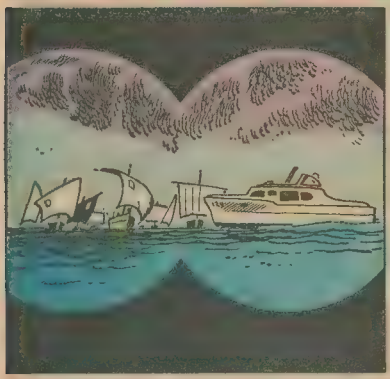
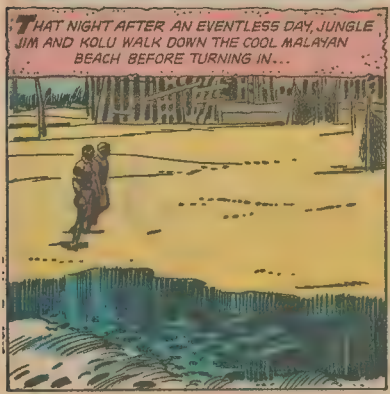
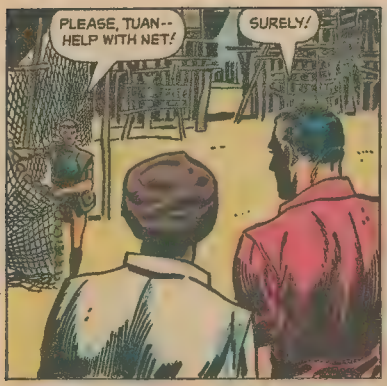

LATER...
WHERE IS THE TRIBUTE MONEY YOU TOOK NEEDLESSLY FOR--
IN AH MING'S TREASURE BOX! HE MADE TUAN BRADLEY LOOK FOOLISH, FORCING US TO PAY TRIBUTE EVEN WHILE THE TUAN PATROLLED!

NEXT MORNING...

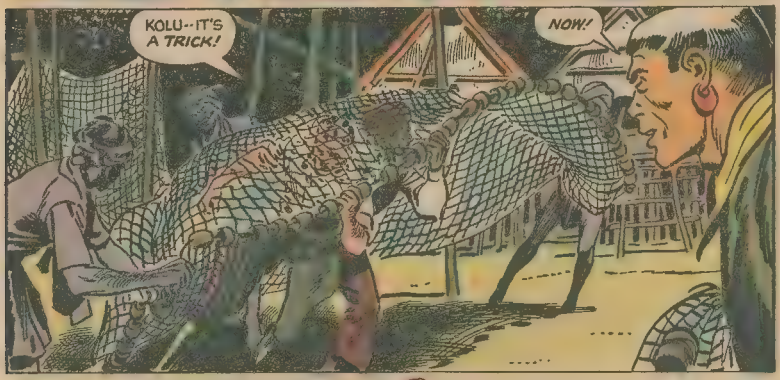
BY MAKING A WIDE CIRCLE AHEAD OF THE FISHING FLEET, KOLU, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE AH MING IF HE SAILS UP TO POKE HIS EXTORTING HAND AMONG THE BOATS!



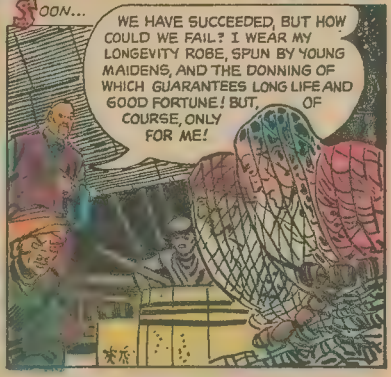


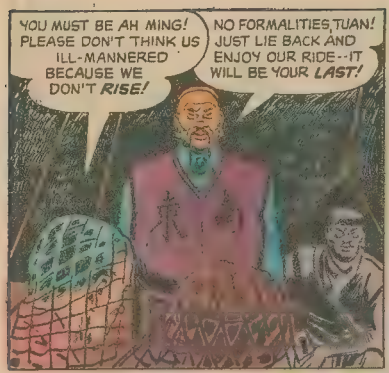

PLEASE, TUAN--HELP WITH NET!
SURELY!

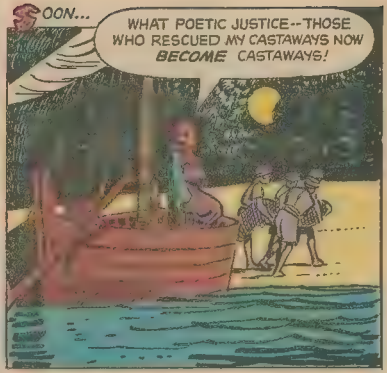
HOLD THERE WHILE WE STRETCH NET!

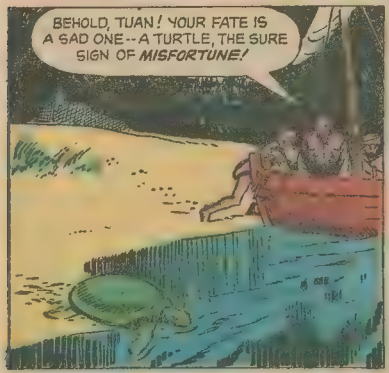

KOLU--IT'S A TRICK!
NOW!

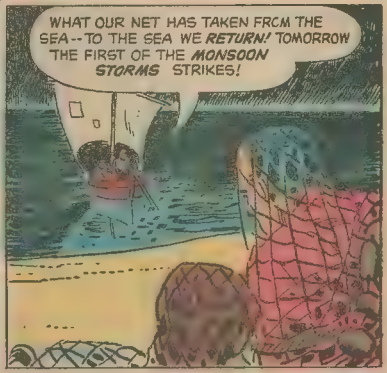
AH MING WILL BE MOST GRATIFIED WITH OUR CATCH!

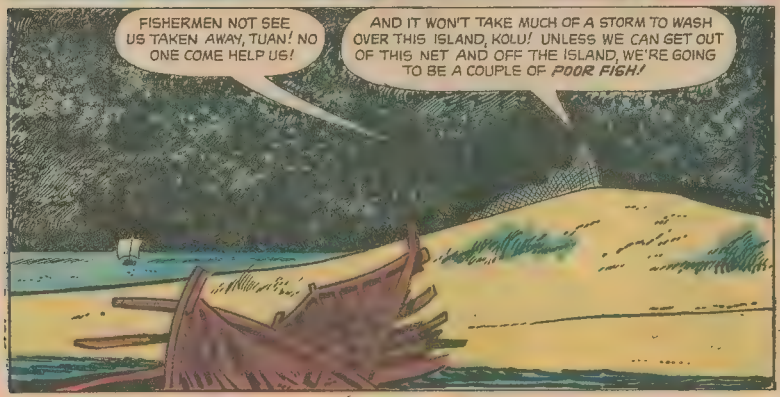

SOON...
WE HAVE SUCCEEDED, BUT HOW COULD WE FAIL? I WEAR MY LONGEVITY ROBE, SPUN BY YOUNG MAIDENS, AND THE DONNING OF WHICH GUARANTEES LONG LIFE AND GOOD FORTUNE! BUT, OF COURSE, ONLY FOR ME!

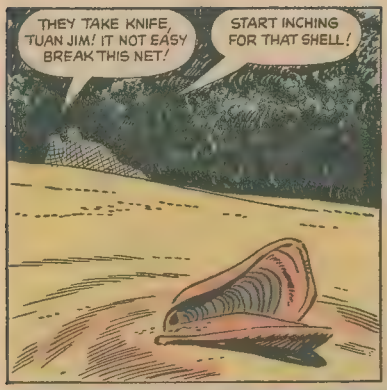

YOU MUST BE AH MING! PLEASE DON'T THINK US ILL-MANNERED BECAUSE WE DON'T RISE!
NO FORMALITIES, TUAN! JUST LIE BACK AND ENJOY OUR RIDE--IT WILL BE YOUR LAST!

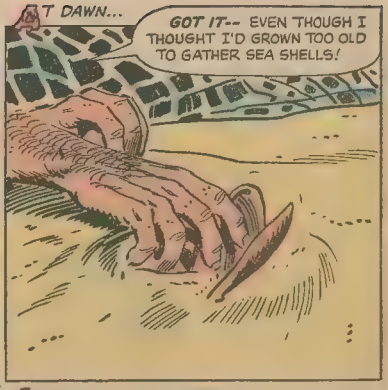

OON...
WHAT POETIC JUSTICE--THOSE WHO RESCUED MY CASTAWAYS NOW BECOME CASTAWAYS!

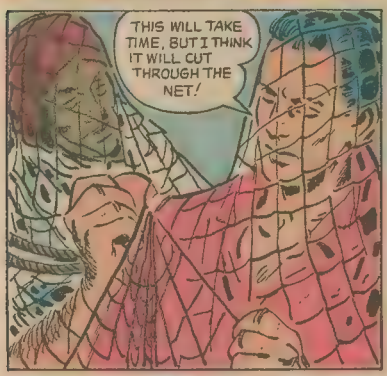

BEHOLD, TUAN! YOUR FATE IS A SAD ONE--A TURTLE, THE SURE SIGN OF MISFORTUNE!

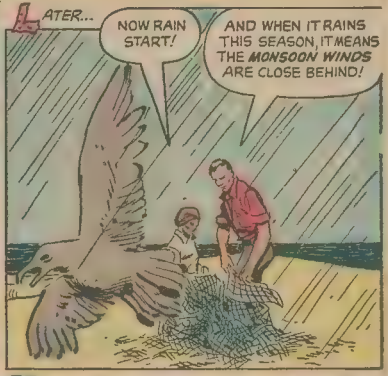

WHAT OUR NET HAS TAKEN FROM THE SEA--TO THE SEA WE RETURN! TOMORROW THE FIRST OF THE MONSOON STORMS STRIKES!

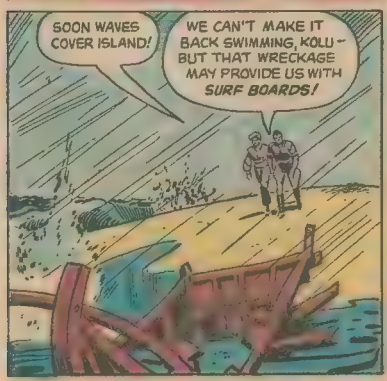

FISHERMEN NOT SEE US TAKEN AWAY, TUAN! NO ONE COME HELP US!
AND IT WON'T TAKE MUCH OF A STORM TO WASH OVER THIS ISLAND, KOLU! UNLESS WE CAN GET OUT OF THIS NET AND OFF THE ISLAND, WE'RE GOING TO BE A COUPLE OF POOR FISH!

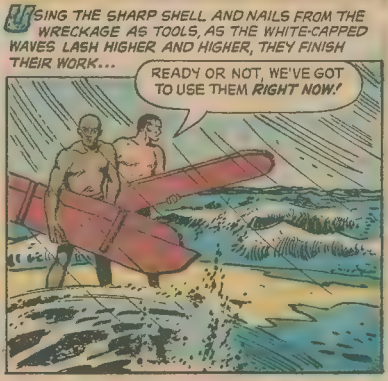

THEY TAKE KNIFE, TUAN JIM! IT NOT EASY BREAK THIS NET!
START INCHING FOR THAT SHELL!

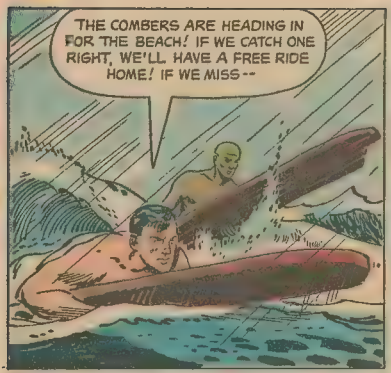

AT DAWN...
GOT IT-- EVEN THOUGH I THOUGHT I'D GROWN TOO OLD TO GATHER SEA SHELLS!

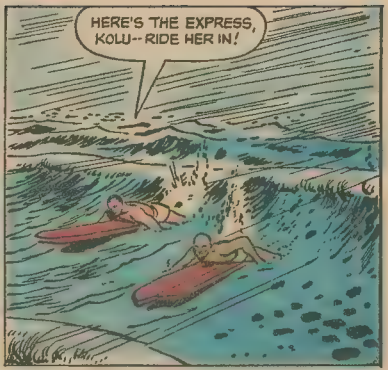

THIS WILL TAKE TIME, BUT I THINK IT WILL CUT THROUGH THE NET!

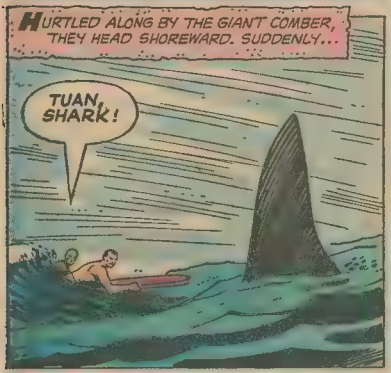

LATER...
NOW RAIN START!
AND WHEN IT RAINS THIS SEASON, IT MEANS THE MONSOON WINDS ARE CLOSE BEHIND!

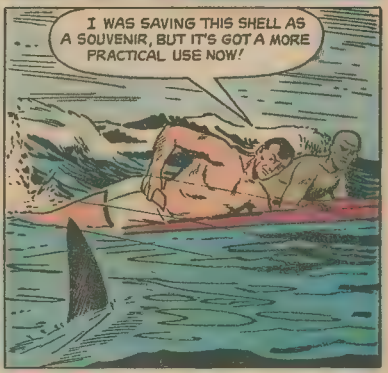

SOON WAVES COVER ISLAND!
WE CAN'T MAKE IT BACK SWIMMING, KOLU - BUT THAT WRECKAGE MAY PROVIDE US WITH SURF BOARDS!

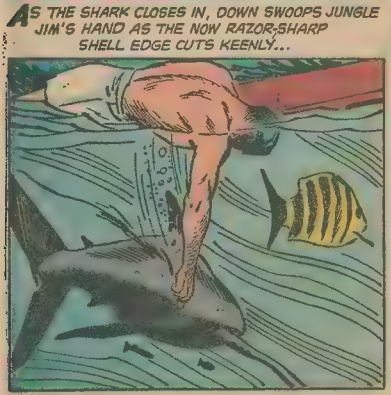

USING THE SHARP SHELL AND NAILS FROM THE WRECKAGE AS TOOLS, AS THE WHITE-CAPPED WAVES LASH HIGHER AND HIGHER, THEY FINISH THEIR WORK...
READY OR NOT, WE'VE GOT TO USE THEM RIGHT NOW!

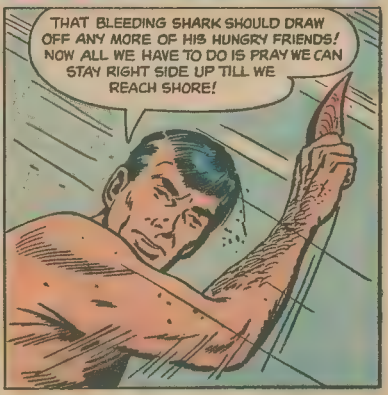

THE COMBERS ARE HEADING IN FOR THE BEACH! IF WE CATCH ONE RIGHT, WE'LL HAVE A FREE RIDE HOME! IF WE MISS--

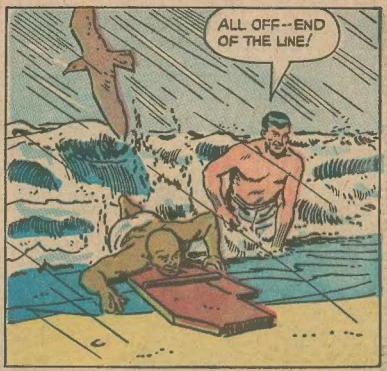

HERE'S THE EXPRESS, KOLU--RIDE HER IN!


HURTLED ALONG BY THE GIANT COMBER, THEY HEAD SHOREWARD. SUDDENLY...
TUAN, SHARK!


I WAS SAVING THIS SHELL AS A SOUVENIR, BUT IT'S GOT A MORE PRACTICAL USE NOW!


AS THE SHARK CLOSES IN, DOWN SWOOPS JUNGLE JIM'S HAND AS THE NOW RAZOR-SHARP SHELL EDGE CUTS KEENLY...

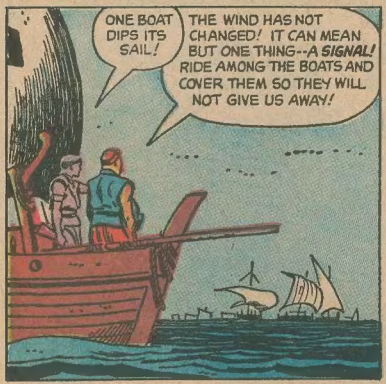

THAT BLEEDING SHARK SHOULD DRAW OFF ANY MORE OF HIS HUNGRY FRIENDS! NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS PRAY WE CAN STAY RIGHT SIDE UP TILL WE REACH SHORE!



NEXT DAY, THE STORM PAST, THE FISHING FLEET PUTS OUT TO THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. SUDDENLY...

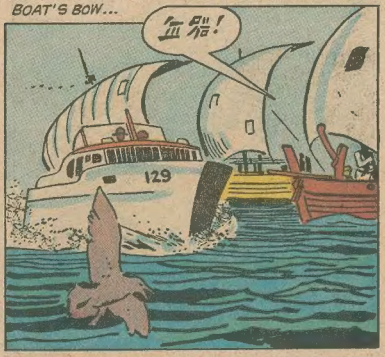
TUAN JIM! THERE SAIL OVER HORIZON-- *DIPPING!*

THAT'S A SIGNAL, KOLU! IT MEANS AH MING IS COMING!



WEAVING AMONG THE FISHING BOATS, JUNGLE JIM BRADLEY KEEPS CUTTING ACROSS THE FISHING BOATS' BOWS WITH HIS STERN...

...AND AS THEIR LAUNCH CUTS THE THIRD FISHING BOAT'S BOW...



NEW! EVERY MONTH

the all-new adventures of

JUNGLE JIM

THEY SEE US TURN, TUAN!
IF I CAN PLACE THESE SHOTS RIGHT, THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT!
RAT-TAT-TAT

AS JUNGLE JIM'S BREN GUN PUMPS SHELLS ACROSS THE WATER, THE BULLETS RIP AND SEVER THE FISHING BOAT'S RIGGING...

USE YOUR WEAPONS!
AH MING-- THE SAIL!
SWING ALONGSIDE, KOLU!
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THAT SHOULD EVEN SCORES! THEY CAUGHT US IN A NET-- WE'VE WRAPPED THEM UP IN A SAIL!

COME OUT, COME OUT, WHEREVER YOU ARE! THE HIDE-AND-SEEK GAME IS OVER AND WHOEVER TRIES ANYTHING WILL BE 'IT'!
TAT-TAT-TAT

QUICKLY, THE BEATEN CREW SURRENDERS...
IF I CAN REACH THE PISTOL, THE TUAN IS AN EASY SHOT--
ONLY TUAN JIM NEEDS A GUN NOW!
SOON...
THE DISTRICT OFFICER HAS BEEN SENT FOR! THESE SEAFARING EXTORTIONISTS WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO GET THEIR LAND LEGS SOON--WHEN THEY'RE MARCHED TO JAIL!
TUAN, YOU MADE THE WATERS SAFE! AGAIN THERE BE JOY WHEN FISHING BOATS SAIL FROM PERUPOK!
I KNEW IT WAS AN EVIL DAY WHEN YOU TRANSFERRED THE DEVILS FROM YOUR BOAT TO MINE! MY LONGEVITY ROBE!! WHY DO YOU HAND IT TO ME NOW?
YOU'LL NEED YOUR LONGEVITY ROBE WHERE YOU'RE GOING SO YOU'LL LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO SERVE OUT YOUR SENTENCE!